

***In the Senate of the United States,***

*December 6, 2001.*

*Resolved*, That the bill from the House of Representatives (H.R. 2716) entitled “An Act to amend title 38, United States Code, to revise, improve, and consolidate provisions of law providing benefits and services for homeless veterans.”, do pass with the following

**AMENDMENT:**

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

- 1 ***SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS; REF-***  
2 ***ERENCES TO TITLE 38, UNITED STATES CODE.***  
3 *(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the*  
4 *“Homeless Veterans Comprehensive Assistance Act of 2001”.*

1       (b) *TABLE OF CONTENTS.*—*The table of contents of this*  
 2 *Act is as follows:*

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents; references to title 38, United States Code.*
- Sec. 2. Definitions.*
- Sec. 3. National goal to end homelessness among veterans.*
- Sec. 4. Sense of the Congress regarding the needs of homeless veterans and the responsibility of Federal agencies.*
- Sec. 5. Consolidation and improvement of provisions of law relating to homeless veterans.*
- Sec. 6. Evaluation centers for homeless veterans programs.*
- Sec. 7. Study of outcome effectiveness of grant program for homeless veterans with special needs.*
- Sec. 8. Expansion of other programs.*
- Sec. 9. Coordination of employment services.*
- Sec. 10. Use of real property.*
- Sec. 11. Meetings of Interagency Council on Homeless.*
- Sec. 12. Rental assistance vouchers for HUD Veterans Affairs Supported Housing program.*

3       (c) *REFERENCES TO TITLE 38, UNITED STATES*  
 4 *CODE.*—*Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever*  
 5 *in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms*  
 6 *of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provi-*  
 7 *sion, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section*  
 8 *or other provision of title 38, United States Code.*

9       **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

10       *For purposes of this Act:*

11               (1) *The term “homeless veteran” has the mean-*  
 12 *ing given such term in section 2002 of title 38,*  
 13 *United States Code, as added by section 5(a)(1).*

14               (2) *The term “grant and per diem provider”*  
 15 *means an entity in receipt of a grant under section*  
 16 *2011 or 2012 of title 38, United States Code, as so*  
 17 *added.*

1 **SEC. 3. NATIONAL GOAL TO END HOMELESSNESS AMONG**  
2 **VETERANS.**

3 (a) *NATIONAL GOAL.*—Congress hereby declares it to  
4 be a national goal to end chronic homelessness among vet-  
5 erans within a decade of the enactment of this Act.

6 (b) *COOPERATIVE EFFORTS ENCOURAGED.*—Congress  
7 hereby encourages all departments and agencies of Federal,  
8 State, and local governments, quasi-governmental organiza-  
9 tions, private and public sector entities, including commu-  
10 nity-based organizations, faith-based organizations, and in-  
11 dividuals to work cooperatively to end chronic homelessness  
12 among veterans within a decade.

13 **SEC. 4. SENSE OF THE CONGRESS REGARDING THE NEEDS**  
14 **OF HOMELESS VETERANS AND THE RESPON-**  
15 **SIBILITY OF FEDERAL AGENCIES.**

16 *It is the sense of the Congress that—*

17 (1) *homelessness is a significant problem in the*  
18 *veterans community and veterans are disproportion-*  
19 *ately represented among homeless men;*

20 (2) *while many effective programs assist home-*  
21 *less veterans to again become productive and self-suf-*  
22 *ficient members of society, current resources provided*  
23 *to such programs and other activities that assist*  
24 *homeless veterans are inadequate to provide all needed*  
25 *essential services, assistance, and support to homeless*  
26 *veterans;*

1           (3) *the most effective programs for the assistance*  
 2           *of homeless veterans should be identified and ex-*  
 3           *panded;*

4           (4) *federally funded programs for homeless vet-*  
 5           *erans should be held accountable for achieving clearly*  
 6           *defined results;*

7           (5) *Federal efforts to assist homeless veterans*  
 8           *should include prevention of homelessness; and*

9           (6) *Federal agencies, particularly the Depart-*  
 10          *ment of Veterans Affairs, the Department of Housing*  
 11          *and Urban Development, and the Department of*  
 12          *Labor, should cooperate more fully to address the*  
 13          *problem of homelessness among veterans.*

14 **SEC. 5. CONSOLIDATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF PROVI-**  
 15                               **SIONS OF LAW RELATING TO HOMELESS VET-**  
 16                               **ERANS.**

17          (a) *IN GENERAL.*—(1) *Part II is amended by inserting*  
 18          *after chapter 19 the following new chapter:*

19          **“CHAPTER 20—BENEFITS FOR HOMELESS**  
 20                               **VETERANS**

                              “SUBCHAPTER I—PURPOSE; DEFINITIONS; ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

                              “Sec.

                              “2001. *Purpose.*

                              “2002. *Definitions.*

                              “2003. *Staffing requirements.*

                              “SUBCHAPTER II—COMPREHENSIVE SERVICE PROGRAMS

                              “2011. *Grants.*

                              “2012. *Per diem payments.*

                              “2013. *Authorization of appropriations.*

“SUBCHAPTER III—TRAINING AND OUTREACH

- “2021. *Homeless veterans reintegration programs.*
- “2022. *Coordination of outreach services for veterans at risk of homelessness.*
- “2023. *Demonstration program of referral and counseling for veterans transitioning from certain institutions who are at risk for homelessness.*

“SUBCHAPTER IV—TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION FOR SERIOUSLY MENTALLY ILL AND HOMELESS VETERANS

- “2031. *General treatment.*
- “2032. *Therapeutic housing.*
- “2033. *Additional services at certain locations.*
- “2034. *Coordination with other agencies and organizations.*

“SUBCHAPTER V—HOUSING ASSISTANCE

- “2041. *Housing assistance for homeless veterans.*
- “2042. *Supported housing for veterans participating in compensated work therapies.*
- “2043. *Domiciliary care programs.*

“SUBCHAPTER VI—LOAN GUARANTEE FOR MULTIFAMILY TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

- “2051. *General authority.*
- “2052. *Requirements.*
- “2053. *Default.*
- “2054. *Audit.*

“SUBCHAPTER VII—OTHER PROVISIONS

- “2061. *Grant program for homeless veterans with special needs.*
- “2062. *Dental care.*
- “2063. *Employment assistance.*
- “2064. *Technical assistance grants for nonprofit community-based groups.*
- “2065. *Annual report on assistance to homeless veterans.*
- “2066. *Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans.*

1       “SUBCHAPTER I—PURPOSE; DEFINITIONS;

2                       ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

3   **“§ 2001. Purpose**

4               “The purpose of this chapter is to provide for the spe-

5   cial needs of homeless veterans.

6   **“§ 2002. Definitions**

7               “In this chapter:

8                       “(1) The term ‘homeless veteran’ means a vet-

9   eran who is homeless (as that term is defined in sec-

1        *tion 103(a) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assist-*  
 2        *ance Act (42 U.S.C. 11302(a)).*

3            “(2) *The term ‘grant and per diem provider’*  
 4        *means an entity in receipt of a grant under section*  
 5        *2011 or 2012 of this title.*

6        **“§ 2003. Staffing requirements**

7            “(a) *VBA STAFFING AT REGIONAL OFFICES.—The*  
 8        *Secretary shall ensure that there is at least one full-time*  
 9        *employee assigned to oversee and coordinate homeless vet-*  
 10       *erans programs at each of the 20 Veterans Benefits Admin-*  
 11       *istration regional offices that the Secretary determines have*  
 12       *the largest homeless veteran populations within the regions*  
 13       *of the Administration. The programs covered by such over-*  
 14       *sight and coordination include the following:*

15            “(1) *Housing programs administered by the Sec-*  
 16        *retary under this title or any other provision of law.*

17            “(2) *Compensation, pension, vocational rehabili-*  
 18        *tation, and education benefits programs administered*  
 19        *by the Secretary under this title or any other provi-*  
 20        *sion of law.*

21            “(3) *The housing program for veterans supported*  
 22        *by the Department of Housing and Urban Develop-*  
 23        *ment.*

4 “(5) *The programs under section 2033 of this*  
5 *title.*”

6                   “(6) *The assessments required by section 2034 of*  
7                   *this title.*

8                   “(7) *Such other programs relating to homeless*  
9                   *veterans as may be specified by the Secretary.*

10           “(b) *VHA CASE MANAGERS.*—*The Secretary shall en-*  
11 *sure that the number of case managers in the Veterans*  
12 *Health Administration is sufficient to assure that every vet-*  
13 *eran who is provided a housing voucher through section 8(o)*  
14 *of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C.*  
15 *1437f(o)) is assigned to, and is seen as needed by, a case*  
16 *manager.*

17 “SUBCHAPTER II—COMPREHENSIVE SERVICE  
18 PROGRAMS

19 “§2011. *Grants*

20 “(a) *AUTHORITY TO MAKE GRANTS.—(1) Subject to*  
21 *the availability of appropriations provided for such pur-*  
22 *pose, the Secretary shall make grants to assist eligible enti-*  
23 *ties in establishing programs to furnish, and expanding or*  
24 *modifying existing programs for furnishing, the following*  
25 *to homeless veterans:*

1           “(A) *Outreach.*

2           “(B) *Rehabilitative services.*

3           “(C) *Vocational counseling and training*

4           “(D) *Transitional housing assistance.*

5           “(2) *The authority of the Secretary to make grants*  
6 *under this section expires on September 30, 2005.*

7           “(b) *CRITERIA FOR GRANTS.—The Secretary shall es-*  
8 *tablish criteria and requirements for grants under this sec-*  
9 *tion, including criteria for entities eligible to receive grants,*  
10 *and shall publish such criteria and requirements in the*  
11 *Federal Register. The criteria established under this sub-*  
12 *section shall include the following:*

13               “(1) *Specification as to the kinds of projects for*  
14 *which grants are available, which shall include—*

15                   “(A) *expansion, remodeling, or alteration of*  
16 *existing buildings, or acquisition of facilities, for*  
17 *use as service centers, transitional housing, or*  
18 *other facilities to serve homeless veterans; and*

19                   “(B) *procurement of vans for use in out-*  
20 *reach to and transportation for homeless veterans*  
21 *for purposes of a program referred to in sub-*  
22 *section (a).*

23               “(2) *Specification as to the number of projects*  
24 *for which grants are available.*

1           “(3) *Criteria for staffing for the provision of*  
2           *services under a project for which grants are made.*

3           “(4) *Provisions to ensure that grants under this*  
4           *section—*

5                     “(A) *shall not result in duplication of ongo-*  
6                     *ing services; and*

7                     “(B) *to the maximum extent practicable,*  
8                     *shall reflect appropriate geographic dispersion*  
9                     *and an appropriate balance between urban and*  
10                    *other locations.*

11           “(5) *Provisions to ensure that an entity receiv-*  
12           *ing a grant shall meet fire and safety requirements*  
13           *established by the Secretary, which shall include—*

14                     “(A) *such State and local requirements that*  
15                     *may apply; and*

16                     “(B) *fire and safety requirements applicable*  
17                     *under the Life Safety Code of the National Fire*  
18                     *Protection Association or such other comparable*  
19                     *fire and safety requirements as the Secretary*  
20                     *may specify.*

21           “(6) *Specification as to the means by which an*  
22           *entity receiving a grant may contribute in-kind serv-*  
23           *ices to the start-up costs of a project for which a*  
24           *grant is sought and the methodology for assigning a*

1       *cost to that contribution for purposes of subsection*  
2       *(c).*

3       “(c) *FUNDING LIMITATIONS.*—*A grant under this sec-*  
4       *tion may not be used to support operational costs. The*  
5       *amount of a grant under this section may not exceed 65*  
6       *percent of the estimated cost of the project concerned.*

7       “(d) *ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.*—*The Secretary may make*  
8       *a grant under this section to an entity applying for such*  
9       *a grant only if the applicant for the grant—*

10               “(1) *is a public or nonprofit private entity with*  
11               *the capacity (as determined by the Secretary) to effec-*  
12               *tively administer a grant under this section;*

13               “(2) *demonstrates that adequate financial sup-*  
14               *port will be available to carry out the project for*  
15               *which the grant is sought consistent with the plans,*  
16               *specifications, and schedule submitted by the appli-*  
17               *cant; and*

18               “(3) *agrees to meet the applicable criteria and*  
19               *requirements established under subsections (b) and (g)*  
20               *and has, as determined by the Secretary, the capacity*  
21               *to meet such criteria and requirements.*

22       “(e) *APPLICATION REQUIREMENT.*—*An entity seeking*  
23       *a grant for a project under this section shall submit to the*  
24       *Secretary an application for the grant. The application*  
25       *shall set forth the following:*

1           “(1) *The amount of the grant sought for the*  
2     *project.*

3           “(2) *A description of the site for the project.*

4           “(3) *Plans, specifications, and the schedule for*  
5     *implementation of the project in accordance with cri-*  
6     *teria and requirements prescribed by the Secretary*  
7     *under subsection (b).*

8           “(4) *Reasonable assurance that upon completion*  
9     *of the work for which the grant is sought, the project*  
10    *will become operational and the facilities will be used*  
11    *principally to provide to veterans the services for*  
12    *which the project was designed, and that not more*  
13    *than 25 percent of the services provided under the*  
14    *project will be provided to individuals who are not*  
15    *veterans.*

16          “(f) *PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary may*  
17    *not make a grant for a project to an applicant under this*  
18    *section unless the applicant in the application for the grant*  
19    *agrees to each of the following requirements:*

20           “(1) *To provide the services for which the grant*  
21    *is made at locations accessible to homeless veterans.*

22           “(2) *To maintain referral networks for homeless*  
23    *veterans for establishing eligibility for assistance and*  
24    *obtaining services, under available entitlement and*

1       *assistance programs, and to aid such veterans in es-*  
2       *tablishing eligibility for and obtaining such services.*

3               “(3) *To ensure the confidentiality of records*  
4       *maintained on homeless veterans receiving services*  
5       *through the project.*

6               “(4) *To establish such procedures for fiscal con-*  
7       *trol and fund accounting as may be necessary to en-*  
8       *sure proper disbursement and accounting with respect*  
9       *to the grant and to such payments as may be made*  
10       *under section 2012 of this title.*

11              “(5) *To seek to employ homeless veterans and*  
12       *formerly homeless veterans in positions created for*  
13       *purposes of the grant for which those veterans are*  
14       *qualified.*

15              “(g) *SERVICE CENTER REQUIREMENTS.—In addition*  
16       *to criteria and requirements established under subsection*  
17       *(b), in the case of an application for a grant under this*  
18       *section for a service center for homeless veterans, the Sec-*  
19       *retary shall require each of the following:*

20              “(1) *That such center provide services to home-*  
21       *less veterans during such hours as the Secretary may*  
22       *specify and be open to such veterans on an as-needed,*  
23       *unscheduled basis.*

24              “(2) *That space at such center be made avail-*  
25       *able, as mutually agreeable, for use by staff of the De-*

1        *partment of Veterans Affairs, the Department of*  
2        *Labor, and other appropriate agencies and organiza-*  
3        *tions in assisting homeless veterans served by such*  
4        *center.*

5                *“(3) That such center be equipped and staffed to*  
6        *provide or to assist in providing health care, mental*  
7        *health services, hygiene facilities, benefits and employ-*  
8        *ment counseling, meals, transportation assistance,*  
9        *and such other services as the Secretary determines*  
10       *necessary.*

11               *“(4) That such center be equipped and staffed to*  
12       *provide, or to assist in providing, job training, coun-*  
13       *seling, and placement services (including job readi-*  
14       *ness and literacy and skills training), as well as any*  
15       *outreach and case management services that may be*  
16       *necessary to carry out this paragraph.*

17               *“(h) RECOVERY OF UNUSED GRANT FUNDS.—(1) If a*  
18       *grant recipient under this section does not establish a pro-*  
19       *gram in accordance with this section or ceases to furnish*  
20       *services under such a program for which the grant was*  
21       *made, the United States shall be entitled to recover from*  
22       *such recipient the total of all unused grant amounts made*  
23       *under this section to such recipient in connection with such*  
24       *program.*

1       “(2) *Any amount recovered by the United States under*  
2 *paragraph (1) may be obligated by the Secretary without*  
3 *fiscal year limitation to carry out provisions of this sub-*  
4 *chapter.*

5       “(3) *An amount may not be recovered under para-*  
6 *graph (1) as an unused grant amount before the end of the*  
7 *three-year period beginning on the date on which the grant*  
8 *is made.*

9       **“§ 2012. *Per diem payments***

10       “(a) *PER DIEM PAYMENTS FOR FURNISHING SERV-*  
11 *ICES TO HOMELESS VETERANS.—(1) Subject to the avail-*  
12 *ability of appropriations provided for such purpose, the*  
13 *Secretary, pursuant to such criteria as the Secretary shall*  
14 *prescribe, shall provide to a recipient of a grant under sec-*  
15 *tion 2011 of this title (or an entity eligible to receive a*  
16 *grant under that section which after November 10, 1992,*  
17 *establishes a program that the Secretary determines carries*  
18 *out the purposes described in that section) per diem pay-*  
19 *ments for services furnished to any homeless veteran—*

20               “(A) *whom the Secretary has referred to the*  
21 *grant recipient (or entity eligible for such a grant);*  
22       *or*

23               “(B) *for whom the Secretary has authorized the*  
24 *provision of services.*

1       “(2)(A) *The rate for such per diem payments shall be*  
2 *the daily cost of care estimated by the grant recipient or*  
3 *eligible entity adjusted by the Secretary under subpara-*  
4 *graph (B). In no case may the rate determined under this*  
5 *paragraph exceed the rate authorized for State homes for*  
6 *domiciliary care under subsection (a)(1)(A) of section 1741*  
7 *of this title, as the Secretary may increase from time to*  
8 *time under subsection (c) of that section.*

9       “(B) *The Secretary shall adjust the rate estimated by*  
10 *the grant recipient or eligible entity under subparagraph*  
11 *(A) to exclude other sources of income described in subpara-*  
12 *graph (D) that the grant recipient or eligible entity certifies*  
13 *to be correct.*

14       “(C) *Each grant recipient or eligible entity shall pro-*  
15 *vide to the Secretary such information with respect to other*  
16 *sources of income as the Secretary may require to make the*  
17 *adjustment under subparagraph (B).*

18       “(D) *The other sources of income referred to in sub-*  
19 *paragraphs (B) and (C) are payments to the grant recipi-*  
20 *ent or eligible entity for furnishing services to homeless vet-*  
21 *erans under programs other than under this subchapter, in-*  
22 *cluding payments and grants from other departments and*  
23 *agencies of the United States, from departments or agencies*  
24 *of State or local government, and from private entities or*  
25 *organizations.*

1       “(3) *In a case in which the Secretary has authorized*  
2 *the provision of services, per diem payments under para-*  
3 *graph (1) may be paid retroactively for services provided*  
4 *not more than three days before the authorization was pro-*  
5 *vided.*

6       “(b) *INSPECTIONS.—The Secretary may inspect any*  
7 *facility of a grant recipient or entity eligible for payments*  
8 *under subsection (a) at such times as the Secretary con-*  
9 *siders necessary. No per diem payment may be provided*  
10 *to a grant recipient or eligible entity under this section un-*  
11 *less the facilities of the grant recipient or eligible entity*  
12 *meet such standards as the Secretary shall prescribe.*

13       “(c) *LIFE SAFETY CODE.—(1) Except as provided in*  
14 *paragraph (2), a per diem payment may not be provided*  
15 *under this section to a grant recipient or eligible entity un-*  
16 *less the facilities of the grant recipient or eligible entity,*  
17 *as the case may be, meet applicable fire and safety require-*  
18 *ments under the Life Safety Code of the National Fire Pro-*  
19 *tection Association or such other comparable fire and safety*  
20 *requirements as the Secretary may specify.*

21       “(2) *During the five-year period beginning on the date*  
22 *of the enactment of this section, paragraph (1) shall not*  
23 *apply to an entity that received a grant under section 3*  
24 *of the Homeless Veterans Comprehensive Service Programs*  
25 *Act of 1992 (Public Law 102–590; 38 U.S.C. 7721 note)*

1 before that date if the entity meets fire and safety require-  
 2 ments established by the Secretary.

3 “(3) From amounts available for purposes of this sec-  
 4 tion, not less than \$5,000,000 shall be used only for grants  
 5 to assist entities covered by paragraph (2) in meeting the  
 6 Life Safety Code of the National Fire Protection Association  
 7 or such other comparable fire and safety requirements as  
 8 the Secretary may specify.

9 **“§ 2013. Authorization of appropriations**

10 “There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
 11 this subchapter amounts as follows:

12 “(1) \$60,000,000 for fiscal year 2002.

13 “(2) \$75,000,000 for fiscal year 2003.

14 “(3) \$75,000,000 for fiscal year 2004.

15 “(4) \$75,000,000 for fiscal year 2005.

16 **“SUBCHAPTER III—TRAINING AND OUTREACH**

17 **“§ 2021. Homeless veterans reintegration programs**

18 “(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Subject to the availability of ap-  
 19 propriations provided for such purpose, the Secretary of  
 20 Labor shall conduct, directly or through grant or contract,  
 21 such programs as the Secretary determines appropriate to  
 22 provide job training, counseling, and placement services  
 23 (including job readiness and literacy and skills training)  
 24 to expedite the reintegration of homeless veterans into the  
 25 labor force.

1       “(b) *REQUIREMENT TO MONITOR EXPENDITURES OF*  
2 *FUNDS.*—(1) *The Secretary of Labor shall collect such in-*  
3 *formation as that Secretary considers appropriate to mon-*  
4 *itor and evaluate the distribution and expenditure of funds*  
5 *appropriated to carry out this section. The information*  
6 *shall include data with respect to the results or outcomes*  
7 *of the services provided to each homeless veteran under this*  
8 *section.*

9       “(2) *Information under paragraph (1) shall be fur-*  
10 *nished in such form and manner as the Secretary of Labor*  
11 *may specify.*

12       “(c) *ADMINISTRATION THROUGH THE ASSISTANT SEC-*  
13 *RETARY OF LABOR FOR VETERANS’ EMPLOYMENT AND*  
14 *TRAINING.*—*The Secretary of Labor shall carry out this sec-*  
15 *tion through the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans’*  
16 *Employment and Training.*

17       “(d) *BIENNIAL REPORT TO CONGRESS.*—*Not less than*  
18 *every two years, the Secretary of Labor shall submit to Con-*  
19 *gress a report on the programs conducted under this section.*  
20 *The Secretary of Labor shall include in the report an eval-*  
21 *uation of services furnished to veterans under this section*  
22 *and an analysis of the information collected under sub-*  
23 *section (b).*

1       “(e) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—(1) *There*  
 2 *are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section*  
 3 *amounts as follows:*

4               “(A) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2002.

5               “(B) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2003.

6               “(C) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2004.

7               “(D) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2005.

8               “(E) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2006.

9       “(2) *Funds appropriated to carry out this section shall*  
 10 *remain available until expended. Funds obligated in any*  
 11 *fiscal year to carry out this section may be expended in*  
 12 *that fiscal year and the succeeding fiscal year.*

13       **“§2022. Coordination of outreach services for vet-**  
 14               **erans at risk of homelessness**

15       “(a) *OUTREACH PLAN.*—*The Secretary, acting through*  
 16 *the Under Secretary for Health, shall provide for appro-*  
 17 *priate officials of the Mental Health Service and the Read-*  
 18 *justment Counseling Service of the Veterans Health Admin-*  
 19 *istration to develop a coordinated plan for joint outreach*  
 20 *by the two Services to veterans at risk of homelessness, in-*  
 21 *cluding particularly veterans who are being discharged or*  
 22 *released from institutions after inpatient psychiatric care,*  
 23 *substance abuse treatment, or imprisonment.*

24       “(b) *MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.*—*The outreach plan*  
 25 *under subsection (a) shall include the following:*

1           “(1) *Strategies to identify and collaborate with*  
2           *non-Department entities used by veterans who have*  
3           *not traditionally used Department services to further*  
4           *outreach efforts.*

5           “(2) *Strategies to ensure that mentoring pro-*  
6           *grams, recovery support groups, and other appro-*  
7           *priate support networks are optimally available to*  
8           *veterans.*

9           “(3) *Appropriate programs or referrals to family*  
10          *support programs.*

11          “(4) *Means to increase access to case manage-*  
12          *ment services.*

13          “(5) *Plans for making additional employment*  
14          *services accessible to veterans.*

15          “(6) *Appropriate referral sources for mental*  
16          *health and substance abuse services.*

17          “(c) *COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIPS.—The outreach*  
18          *plan under subsection (a) shall identify strategies for the*  
19          *Department to enter into formal cooperative relationships*  
20          *with entities outside the Department to facilitate making*  
21          *services and resources optimally available to veterans.*

22          “(d) *REVIEW OF PLAN.—The Secretary shall submit*  
23          *the outreach plan under subsection (a) to the Advisory Com-*  
24          *mittee on Homeless Veterans for its review and consulta-*  
25          *tion.*

1       “(e) *OUTREACH PROGRAM.*—(1) *The Secretary shall*  
2 *carry out an outreach program to provide information to*  
3 *homeless veterans and veterans at risk of homelessness. The*  
4 *program shall include at a minimum—*

5               “(A) *provision of information about benefits*  
6 *available to eligible veterans from the Department;*  
7 *and*

8               “(B) *contact information for local Department*  
9 *facilities, including medical facilities, regional offices,*  
10 *and veterans centers.*

11       “(2) *In developing and carrying out the program*  
12 *under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall, to the extent prac-*  
13 *ticable, consult with appropriate public and private organi-*  
14 *zations, including the Bureau of Prisons, State social serv-*  
15 *ice agencies, the Department of Defense, and mental health,*  
16 *veterans, and homeless advocates—*

17               “(A) *for assistance in identifying and contacting*  
18 *veterans who are homeless or at risk of homelessness;*

19               “(B) *to coordinate appropriate outreach activi-*  
20 *ties with those organizations; and*

21               “(C) *to coordinate services provided to veterans*  
22 *with services provided by those organizations.*

23       “(f) *REPORTS.*—(1) *Not later than October 1, 2002,*  
24 *the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Veterans’*  
25 *Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives an ini-*

1 *tial report that contains an evaluation of outreach activities*  
2 *carried out by the Secretary with respect to homeless vet-*  
3 *erans, including outreach regarding clinical issues and*  
4 *other benefits administered under this title. The Secretary*  
5 *shall conduct the evaluation in consultation with the Under*  
6 *Secretary for Benefits, the Department of Veterans Affairs*  
7 *central office official responsible for the administration of*  
8 *the Readjustment Counseling Service, the Director of Home-*  
9 *less Veterans Programs, and the Department of Veterans Af-*  
10 *fairs central office official responsible for the administra-*  
11 *tion of the Mental Health Strategic Health Care Group.*

12       “(2) *Not later than December 31, 2005, the Secretary*  
13 *shall submit to the committees referred to in paragraph (1)*  
14 *an interim report on outreach activities carried out by the*  
15 *Secretary with respect to homeless veterans. The report shall*  
16 *include the following:*

17               “(A) *The Secretary’s outreach plan under sub-*  
18 *section (a), including goals and time lines for imple-*  
19 *mentation of the plan for particular facilities and*  
20 *service networks.*

21               “(B) *A description of the implementation and*  
22 *operation of the outreach program under subsection*  
23 *(e).*

1           “(C) *A description of the implementation and*  
 2           *operation of the demonstration program under section*  
 3           *2023 of this title.*

4           “(3) *Not later than July 1, 2007, the Secretary shall*  
 5           *submit to the committees referred to in paragraph (1) a*  
 6           *final report on outreach activities carried out by the Sec-*  
 7           *retary with respect to homeless veterans. The report shall*  
 8           *include the following:*

9           “(A) *An evaluation of the effectiveness of the out-*  
 10          *reach plan under subsection (a).*

11          “(B) *An evaluation of the effectiveness of the out-*  
 12          *reach program under subsection (e).*

13          “(C) *An evaluation of the effectiveness of the*  
 14          *demonstration program under section 2023 of this*  
 15          *title.*

16          “(D) *Recommendations, if any, regarding an ex-*  
 17          *tension or modification of such outreach plan, such*  
 18          *outreach program, and such demonstration program.*

19          **“§ 2023. Demonstration program of referral and coun-**  
 20                  **seling for veterans transitioning from cer-**  
 21                  **tain institutions who are at risk for home-**  
 22                  **lessness**

23          “(a) *PROGRAM AUTHORITY.—The Secretary and the*  
 24          *Secretary of Labor (hereinafter in this section referred to*  
 25          *as the ‘Secretaries’) shall carry out a demonstration pro-*

1 gram for the purpose of determining the costs and benefits  
 2 of providing referral and counseling services to eligible vet-  
 3 erans with respect to benefits and services available to such  
 4 veterans under this title and under State law.

5 “(b) *LOCATION OF DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.*—The  
 6 demonstration program shall be carried out in at least six  
 7 locations. One location shall be a penal institution under  
 8 the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Prisons.

9 “(c) *SCOPE OF PROGRAM.*—(1) To the extent prac-  
 10 ticable, the demonstration program shall provide both refer-  
 11 ral and counseling services, and in the case of counseling  
 12 services, shall include counseling with respect to job train-  
 13 ing and placement (including job readiness), housing,  
 14 health care, and other benefits to assist the eligible veteran  
 15 in the transition from institutional living.

16 “(2)(A) To the extent that referral or counseling serv-  
 17 ices are provided at a location under the program, referral  
 18 services shall be provided in person during such period of  
 19 time that the Secretaries may specify that precedes the date  
 20 of release or discharge of the eligible veteran, and counseling  
 21 services shall be furnished after such date.

22 “(B) The Secretaries may, as part of the program, fur-  
 23 nish to officials of penal institutions outreach information  
 24 with respect to referral and counseling services for presen-  
 25 tation to veterans in the custody of such officials during

1 *the 18-month period that precedes such date of release or*  
2 *discharge.*

3       “(3) *The Secretaries may enter into contracts to carry*  
4 *out the referral and counseling services required under the*  
5 *program with entities or organizations that meet such re-*  
6 *quirements as the Secretaries may establish.*

7       “(4) *In developing the program, the Secretaries shall*  
8 *consult with officials of the Bureau of Prisons, officials of*  
9 *penal institutions of States and political subdivisions of*  
10 *States, and such other officials as the Secretaries determine*  
11 *appropriate.*

12       “(d) *DURATION.—The authority of the Secretaries to*  
13 *provide referral and counseling services under the dem-*  
14 *onstration program shall cease on the date that is four years*  
15 *after the date of the commencement of the program.*

16       “(e) *DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘eligible*  
17 *veteran’ means a veteran who—*

18               “(1) *is a resident of a penal institution or an in-*  
19 *stitution that provides long-term care for mental ill-*  
20 *ness; and*

21               “(2) *is at risk for homelessness absent referral*  
22 *and counseling services provided under the dem-*  
23 *onstration program (as determined under guidelines*  
24 *established by the Secretaries).*

1       “SUBCHAPTER V—HOUSING ASSISTANCE

2       **“§ 2042. Supported housing for veterans participating**  
 3               **in compensated work therapies**

4       “The Secretary may authorize homeless veterans in the  
 5 compensated work therapy program to be provided housing  
 6 through the therapeutic residence program under section  
 7 2032 of this title or through grant and per diem providers  
 8 under subchapter II of this chapter.

9       **“§ 2043. Domiciliary care programs**

10       “(a) *AUTHORITY.*—The Secretary may establish up to  
 11 10 programs under section 1710(b) of this title (in addition  
 12 to any program that is established as of the date of the en-  
 13 actment of this section) to provide domiciliary services  
 14 under such section to homeless veterans.

15       “(b) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—There  
 16 are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary  
 17 \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2003 and 2004 to estab-  
 18 lish the programs referred to in subsection (a).

19       “SUBCHAPTER VII—OTHER PROVISIONS

20       **“§ 2061. Grant program for homeless veterans with**  
 21               **special needs**

22       “(a) *ESTABLISHMENT.*—The Secretary shall carry out  
 23 a program to make grants to health care facilities of the  
 24 Department and to grant and per diem providers in order

1 *to encourage development by those facilities and providers*  
 2 *of programs for homeless veterans with special needs.*

3 “(b) *HOMELESS VETERANS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS.*—

4 *For purposes of this section, homeless veterans with special*  
 5 *needs include homeless veterans who are—*

6 “(1) *women, including women who have care of*  
 7 *minor dependents;*

8 “(2) *frail elderly;*

9 “(3) *terminally ill; or*

10 “(4) *chronically mentally ill.*

11 “(c) *FUNDING.*—(1) *From amounts appropriated to*  
 12 *the Department for ‘Medical Care’ for each of fiscal years*  
 13 *2003, 2004, and 2005, \$5,000,000 shall be available for each*  
 14 *such fiscal year for the purposes of the program under this*  
 15 *section.*

16 “(2) *The Secretary shall ensure that funds for grants*  
 17 *under this section are designated for the first three years*  
 18 *of operation of the program under this section as a special*  
 19 *purpose program for which funds are not allocated through*  
 20 *the Veterans Equitable Resource Allocation system.*

21 **“§ 2062. Dental care**

22 “(a) *IN GENERAL.*—*For purposes of section*  
 23 *1712(a)(1)(H) of this title, outpatient dental services and*  
 24 *treatment of a dental condition or disability of a veteran*

1 *described in subsection (b) shall be considered to be medi-*  
2 *cally necessary, subject to subsection (c), if—*

3           “(1) *the dental services and treatment are nec-*  
4 *essary for the veteran to successfully gain or regain*  
5 *employment;*

6           “(2) *the dental services and treatment are nec-*  
7 *essary to alleviate pain; or*

8           “(3) *the dental services and treatment are nec-*  
9 *essary for treatment of moderate, severe, or severe and*  
10 *complicated gingival and periodontal pathology.*

11       “(b) *ELIGIBLE VETERANS.—Subsection (a) applies to*  
12 *a veteran—*

13           “(1) *who is enrolled for care under section*  
14 *1705(a) of this title; and*

15           “(2) *who, for a period of 60 consecutive days, is*  
16 *receiving care (directly or by contract) in any of the*  
17 *following settings:*

18                   “(A) *A domiciliary under section 1710 of*  
19 *this title.*

20                   “(B) *A therapeutic residence under section*  
21 *2032 of this title.*

22                   “(C) *Community residential care coordi-*  
23 *nated by the Secretary under section 1730 of this*  
24 *title.*

1                   “(D) A setting for which the Secretary pro-  
2                   vides funds for a grant and per diem provider.

3                   “(3) For purposes of paragraph (2), in determining  
4 whether a veteran has received treatment for a period of  
5 60 consecutive days, the Secretary may disregard breaks in  
6 the continuity of treatment for which the veteran is not re-  
7 sponsible.

8                   “(c) *LIMITATION.*—Dental benefits provided by reason  
9 of this section shall be a one-time course of dental care pro-  
10 vided in the same manner as the dental benefits provided  
11 to a newly discharged veteran.

12                   **“§ 2063. Employment assistance**

13                   “The Secretary may authorize homeless veterans re-  
14 ceiving care through vocational rehabilitation programs to  
15 participate in the compensated work therapy program  
16 under section 1718 of this title.

17                   **“§ 2064. Technical assistance grants for nonprofit**  
18                   **community-based groups**

19                   “(a) *GRANT PROGRAM.*—The Secretary shall carry out  
20 a program to make grants to entities or organizations with  
21 expertise in preparing grant applications. Under the pro-  
22 gram, the entities or organizations receiving grants shall  
23 provide technical assistance to nonprofit community-based  
24 groups with experience in providing assistance to homeless  
25 veterans in order to assist such groups in applying for

1 *grants under this chapter and other grants relating to ad-*  
 2 *ressing problems of homeless veterans.*

3 “(b) *FUNDING.*—*There is authorized to be appro-*  
 4 *priated \$750,000 for each of fiscal years 2002 through 2005*  
 5 *to carry out the program under this section.*

6 “§ 2065. ***Annual report on assistance to homeless vet-***  
 7 ***erans***

8 “(a) *ANNUAL REPORT.*—*Not later than April 15 of*  
 9 *each year, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on*  
 10 *Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate and House of Representa-*  
 11 *tives a report on the activities of the Department during*  
 12 *the calendar year preceding the report under programs of*  
 13 *the Department under this chapter and other programs of*  
 14 *the Department for the provision of assistance to homeless*  
 15 *veterans.*

16 “(b) *GENERAL CONTENTS OF REPORT.*—*Each report*  
 17 *under subsection (a) shall include the following:*

18 “(1) *The number of homeless veterans provided*  
 19 *assistance under the programs referred to in sub-*  
 20 *section (a).*

21 “(2) *The cost to the Department of providing*  
 22 *such assistance under those programs.*

23 “(3) *The Secretary’s evaluation of the effective-*  
 24 *ness of the programs of the Department in providing*  
 25 *assistance to homeless veterans, including—*

1                   “(A) residential work-therapy programs;

2                   “(B) programs combining outreach, commu-  
3                   nity-based residential treatment, and case-man-  
4                   agement; and

5                   “(C) contract care programs for alcohol and  
6                   drug-dependence or use disabilities).

7                   “(4) The Secretary’s evaluation of the effective-  
8                   ness of programs established by recipients of grants  
9                   under section 2011 of this title and a description of  
10                  the experience of those recipients in applying for and  
11                  receiving grants from the Secretary of Housing and  
12                  Urban Development to serve primarily homeless per-  
13                  sons who are veterans.

14                  “(5) Any other information on those programs  
15                  and on the provision of such assistance that the Sec-  
16                  retary considers appropriate.

17                  “(c) HEALTH CARE CONTENTS OF REPORT.—Each re-  
18                  port under subsection (a) shall include, with respect to pro-  
19                  grams of the Department addressing health care needs of  
20                  homeless veterans, the following:

21                  “(1) Information about expenditures, costs, and  
22                  workload under the program of the Department  
23                  known as the Health Care for Homeless Veterans pro-  
24                  gram (HCHV).

1           “(2) *Information about the veterans contacted*  
2           *through that program.*

3           “(3) *Information about program treatment out-*  
4           *comes under that program.*

5           “(4) *Information about supported housing pro-*  
6           *grams.*

7           “(5) *Information about the Department’s grant*  
8           *and per diem provider program under subchapter II*  
9           *of this chapter.*

10          “(6) *The findings and conclusions of the assess-*  
11          *ments of the medical needs of homeless veterans con-*  
12          *ducted under section 2034(b) of this title.*

13          “(7) *Other information the Secretary considers*  
14          *relevant in assessing those programs.*

15          “(d) *BENEFITS CONTENT OF REPORT.—Each report*  
16          *under subsection (a) shall include, with respect to programs*  
17          *and activities of the Veterans Benefits Administration in*  
18          *processing of claims for benefits of homeless veterans during*  
19          *the preceding year, the following:*

20               “(1) *Information on costs, expenditures, and*  
21               *workload of Veterans Benefits Administration claims*  
22               *evaluators in processing claims for benefits of home-*  
23               *less veterans.*

24               “(2) *Information on the filing of claims for bene-*  
25               *fits by homeless veterans.*

1           “(3) *Information on efforts undertaken to expedite the processing of claims for benefits of homeless veterans.*

4           “(4) *Other information that the Secretary considers relevant in assessing the programs and activities.*

7   **“§ 2066. Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans**

8           “(a) *ESTABLISHMENT.—(1) There is established in the Department the Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans (hereinafter in this section referred to as the ‘Committee’).*

11          “(2) *The Committee shall consist of not more than 15 members appointed by the Secretary from among the following:*

14           “(A) *Veterans service organizations.*

15           “(B) *Advocates of homeless veterans and other homeless individuals.*

17           “(C) *Community-based providers of services to homeless individuals.*

19           “(D) *Previously homeless veterans.*

20           “(E) *State veterans affairs officials.*

21           “(F) *Experts in the treatment of individuals with mental illness.*

23           “(G) *Experts in the treatment of substance use disorders.*

1           “(H) *Experts in the development of permanent*  
2           *housing alternatives for lower income populations.*

3           “(I) *Experts in vocational rehabilitation.*

4           “(J) *Such other organizations or groups as the*  
5           *Secretary considers appropriate.*

6           “(3) *The Committee shall include, as ex officio mem-*  
7           *bers, the following:*

8           “(A) *The Secretary of Labor (or a representative*  
9           *of the Secretary selected after consultation with the*  
10           *Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans’ Employ-*  
11           *ment).*

12           “(B) *The Secretary of Defense (or a representa-*  
13           *tive of the Secretary).*

14           “(C) *The Secretary of Health and Human Serv-*  
15           *ices (or a representative of the Secretary).*

16           “(D) *The Secretary of Housing and Urban De-*  
17           *velopment (or a representative of the Secretary).*

18           “(4)(A) *The Secretary shall determine the terms of*  
19           *service and allowances of the members of the Committee,*  
20           *except that a term of service may not exceed three years.*  
21           *The Secretary may reappoint any member for additional*  
22           *terms of service.*

23           “(B) *Members of the Committee shall serve without*  
24           *pay. Members may receive travel expenses, including per*

1 *diem in lieu of subsistence for travel in connection with*  
2 *their duties as members of the Committee.*

3 “(b) *DUTIES.—(1) The Secretary shall consult with*  
4 *and seek the advice of the Committee on a regular basis*  
5 *with respect to the provision by the Department of benefits*  
6 *and services to homeless veterans.*

7 “(2) *In providing advice to the Secretary under this*  
8 *subsection, the Committee shall—*

9 “(A) *assemble and review information relating*  
10 *to the needs of homeless veterans;*

11 “(B) *provide an on-going assessment of the effec-*  
12 *tiveness of the policies, organizational structures, and*  
13 *services of the Department in assisting homeless vet-*  
14 *erans; and*

15 “(C) *provide on-going advice on the most appro-*  
16 *priate means of providing assistance to homeless vet-*  
17 *erans.*

18 “(3) *The Committee shall—*

19 “(A) *review the continuum of services provided*  
20 *by the Department directly or by contract in order to*  
21 *define cross-cutting issues and to improve coordina-*  
22 *tion of all services with the Department that are in-*  
23 *volved in addressing the special needs of homeless vet-*  
24 *erans;*

1           “(B) identify (through the annual assessments  
2           under section 2034 of this title and other available re-  
3           sources) gaps in programs of the Department in serv-  
4           ing homeless veterans, including identification of geo-  
5           graphic areas with unmet needs, and provide rec-  
6           ommendations to address those gaps;

7           “(C) identify gaps in existing information sys-  
8           tems on homeless veterans, both within and outside  
9           the Department, and provide recommendations about  
10          redressing problems in data collection;

11          “(D) identify barriers under existing laws and  
12          policies to effective coordination by the Department  
13          with other Federal agencies and with State and local  
14          agencies addressing homeless populations;

15          “(E) identify opportunities for increased liaison  
16          by the Department with nongovernmental organiza-  
17          tions and individual groups providing services to  
18          homeless populations;

19          “(F) with appropriate officials of the Depart-  
20          ment designated by the Secretary, participate with  
21          the Interagency Council on the Homeless under title  
22          II of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act  
23          (42 U.S.C. 11311 et seq.);

1           “(G) recommend appropriate funding levels for  
2           specialized programs for homeless veterans provided  
3           or funded by the Department;

4           “(H) recommend appropriate placement options  
5           for veterans who, because of advanced age, frailty, or  
6           severe mental illness, may not be appropriate can-  
7           didates for vocational rehabilitation or independent  
8           living; and

9           “(I) perform such other functions as the Sec-  
10          retary may direct.

11          “(c) *REPORTS.*—(1) Not later than March 31 of each  
12          year, the Committee shall submit to the Secretary a report  
13          on the programs and activities of the Department that re-  
14          late to homeless veterans. Each such report shall include—

15               “(A) an assessment of the needs of homeless vet-  
16               erans;

17               “(B) a review of the programs and activities of  
18               the Department designed to meet such needs;

19               “(C) a review of the activities of the Committee;  
20               and

21               “(D) such recommendations (including rec-  
22               ommendations for administrative and legislative ac-  
23               tion) as the Committee considers appropriate.

24          “(2) Not later than 90 days after the receipt of a report  
25          under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall transmit to the

1 *Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and House*  
 2 *of Representatives a copy of the report, together with any*  
 3 *comments and recommendations concerning the report that*  
 4 *the Secretary considers appropriate.*

5       “(3) *The Committee may also submit to the Secretary*  
 6 *such other reports and recommendations as the Committee*  
 7 *considers appropriate.*

8       “(4) *The Secretary shall submit with each annual re-*  
 9 *port submitted to the Congress pursuant to section 529 of*  
 10 *this title a summary of all reports and recommendations*  
 11 *of the Committee submitted to the Secretary since the pre-*  
 12 *vious annual report of the Secretary submitted pursuant*  
 13 *to that section.*

14       “(d) *TERMINATION.—The Committee shall cease to*  
 15 *exist December 31, 2006.”.*

16       (2) *The tables of chapters before part I and at the be-*  
 17 *ginning of part II are each amended by inserting after the*  
 18 *item relating to chapter 19 the following new item:*

“20. *Benefits for Homeless Veterans* ..... 2001”.

19       (b) *HEALTH CARE.—(1) Subchapter VII of chapter 17*  
 20 *is transferred to chapter 20 (as added by subsection (a)),*  
 21 *inserted after section 2023 (as so added), and redesignated*  
 22 *as subchapter IV, and sections 1771, 1772, 1773, and 1774*  
 23 *therein are redesignated as sections 2031, 2032, 2033, and*  
 24 *2034, respectively.*

1       (2) Subsection (a)(3) of section 2031, as so transferred  
 2   and redesignated, is amended by striking “section 1772 of  
 3   this title” and inserting “section 2032 of this title”.

4       (c) *HOUSING ASSISTANCE*.—Section 3735 is trans-  
 5   ferred to chapter 20 (as added by subsection (a)), inserted  
 6   after the heading for subchapter V, and redesignated as sec-  
 7   tion 2041.

8       (d) *MULTIFAMILY TRANSITIONAL HOUSING*.—(1) Sub-  
 9   chapter VI of chapter 37 (other than section 3771) is trans-  
 10   ferred to chapter 20 (as added by subsection (a)) and in-  
 11   serted after section 2043 (as so added), and sections 3772,  
 12   3773, 3774, and 3775 therein are redesignated as sections  
 13   2051, 2052, 2053, and 2054, respectively.

14       (2) Such subchapter is amended—

15           (A) in the heading, by striking “FOR HOME-  
 16       LESS VETERANS”;

17           (B) in subsection (d)(1) of section 2051, as so  
 18       transferred and redesignated, by striking “section  
 19       3773 of this title” and inserting “section 2052 of this  
 20       title”; and

21           (C) in subsection (a) of section 2052, as so trans-  
 22       ferred and redesignated, by striking “section 3772 of  
 23       this title” and inserting “section 2051 of this title”.

24       (3) Section 3771 is repealed.

1       (e) *REPEAL OF CODIFIED PROVISIONS.*—*The following*  
2 *provisions of law are repealed:*

3           (1) *Sections 3, 4, and 12 of the Homeless Vet-*  
4 *erans Comprehensive Service Programs Act of 1992*  
5 *(Public Law 102–590; 38 U.S.C. 7721 note).*

6           (2) *Section 1001 of the Veterans’ Benefits Im-*  
7 *provements Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–446; 38*  
8 *U.S.C. 7721 note).*

9           (3) *Section 4111.*

10          (4) *Section 738 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless*  
11 *Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11448).*

12       (f) *EXTENSION OF EXPIRING AUTHORITIES.*—*Sub-*  
13 *section (b) of section 2031, as redesignated by subsection*  
14 *(b)(1), and subsection (d) of section 2033, as so redesign-*  
15 *ated, are amended by striking “December 31, 2001” and*  
16 *inserting “December 31, 2006”.*

17       (g) *CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.*—(1) *The table of sections*  
18 *at the beginning of chapter 17 is amended by striking the*  
19 *item relating to subchapter VII and the items relating to*  
20 *sections 1771, 1772, 1773, and 1774.*

21       (2) *The table of sections at the beginning of chapter*  
22 *37 is amended—*

23           (A) *by striking the item relating to section 3735;*  
24 *and*

1           (B) by striking the item relating to subchapter  
 2       VI and the items relating to sections 3771, 3772,  
 3       3773, 3774, and 3775.

4       (3) The table of sections at the beginning of chapter  
 5       41 is amended by striking the item relating to section 4111.

6       **SEC. 6. EVALUATION CENTERS FOR HOMELESS VETERANS**  
 7                               **PROGRAMS.**

8       (a) *EVALUATION CENTERS.*—The Secretary of Vet-  
 9       erans Affairs shall support the continuation within the De-  
 10      partment of Veterans Affairs of at least one center for eval-  
 11      uation to monitor the structure, process, and outcome of  
 12      programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs that ad-  
 13      dress homeless veterans.

14      (b) *ANNUAL PROGRAM ASSESSMENT.*—Section  
 15      2034(b), as transferred and redesignated by section 5(b)(1),  
 16      is amended—

17               (1) by inserting “annual” in paragraph (1) after  
 18      “to make an”; and

19               (2) by adding at the end the following new para-  
 20      graph:

21      “(6) The Secretary shall review each annual assess-  
 22      ment under this subsection and shall consolidate the find-  
 23      ings and conclusions of each such assessment into the next  
 24      annual report submitted to Congress under section 2065 of  
 25      this title.”.

1 **SEC. 7. STUDY OF OUTCOME EFFECTIVENESS OF GRANT**  
2 **PROGRAM FOR HOMELESS VETERANS WITH**  
3 **SPECIAL NEEDS.**

4 (a) *STUDY.*—*The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall*  
5 *conduct a study of the effectiveness during fiscal year 2002*  
6 *through fiscal year 2004 of the grant program under section*  
7 *2061 of title 38, United States Code, as added by section*  
8 *5(a), in meeting the needs of homeless veterans with special*  
9 *needs (as specified in that section). As part of the study,*  
10 *the Secretary shall compare the results of programs carried*  
11 *out under that section, in terms of veterans’ satisfaction,*  
12 *health status, reduction in addiction severity, housing, and*  
13 *encouragement of productive activity, with results for simi-*  
14 *lar veterans in programs of the Department or of grant and*  
15 *per diem providers that are designed to meet the general*  
16 *needs of homeless veterans.*

17 (b) *REPORT.*—*Not later than March 31, 2005, the Sec-*  
18 *retary shall submit to the Committees on Veterans’ Affairs*  
19 *of the Senate and House of Representatives a report setting*  
20 *forth the results of the study under subsection (a).*

21 **SEC. 8. EXPANSION OF OTHER PROGRAMS.**

22 (a) *ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.*—*Section*  
23 *1706 is amended by adding at the end the following new*  
24 *subsection:*

25 “(c) *The Secretary shall ensure that each primary care*  
26 *health care facility of the Department develops and carries*

1 *out a plan to provide mental health services, either through*  
 2 *referral or direct provision of services, to veterans who re-*  
 3 *quire such services.”.*

4 *(b) COMPREHENSIVE HOMELESS SERVICES PRO-*  
 5 *GRAM.—Subsection (b) of section 2033, as transferred and*  
 6 *redesignated by section 5(b)(1), is amended—*

7 *(1) by striking “not fewer” in the first sentence*  
 8 *and all that follows through “services) at”; and*

9 *(2) by adding at the end the following new sen-*  
 10 *tence: “The Secretary shall carry out the program*  
 11 *under this section in sites in at least each of the 20*  
 12 *largest metropolitan statistical areas.”.*

13 *(c) ACCESS TO SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SERV-*  
 14 *ICES.—Section 1720A is amended by adding at the end the*  
 15 *following new subsection:*

16 *“(d)(1) The Secretary shall ensure that each medical*  
 17 *center of the Department develops and carries out a plan*  
 18 *to provide treatment for substance use disorders, either*  
 19 *through referral or direct provision of services, to veterans*  
 20 *who require such treatment.*

21 *“(2) Each plan under paragraph (1) shall make avail-*  
 22 *able clinically proven substance abuse treatment methods,*  
 23 *including opioid substitution therapy, to veterans with re-*  
 24 *spect to whom a qualified medical professional has deter-*  
 25 *mined such treatment methods to be appropriate.”.*

1 **SEC. 9. COORDINATION OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES.**

2 (a) *DISABLED VETERANS' OUTREACH PROGRAM.*—

3 *Section 4103A(c) is amended by adding at the end the fol-*  
4 *lowing new paragraph:*

5 “(11) *Coordination of employment services with*  
6 *training assistance provided to veterans by entities*  
7 *receiving funds under section 2021 of this title.*”.

8 (b) *LOCAL VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT REPRESENTA-*  
9 *TIVES.*—*Section 4104(b) is amended—*

10 (1) *by striking “and” at the end of paragraph*  
11 *(11);*

12 (2) *by striking the period at the end of para-*  
13 *graph (12) and inserting “; and”; and*

14 (3) *by adding at the end the following new para-*  
15 *graph:*

16 “(13) *coordinate employment services with train-*  
17 *ing assistance provided to veterans by entities receiv-*  
18 *ing funds under section 2021 of this title.*”.

19 **SEC. 10. USE OF REAL PROPERTY.**

20 (a) *LIMITATION ON DECLARING PROPERTY EXCESS TO*  
21 *THE NEEDS OF THE DEPARTMENT.*—*Section 8122(d) is*  
22 *amended by inserting before the period at the end the fol-*  
23 *lowing: “and is not suitable for use for the provision of serv-*  
24 *ices to homeless veterans by the Department or by another*  
25 *entity under an enhanced-use lease of such property under*  
26 *section 8162 of this title.”.*

1       (b) *WAIVER OF COMPETITIVE SELECTION PROCESS*  
 2 *FOR ENHANCED-USE LEASES FOR PROPERTIES USED TO*  
 3 *SERVE HOMELESS VETERANS.*—Section 8162(b)(1) is  
 4 *amended—*

5           (1) *by inserting “(A)” after “(b)(1)”;* and

6           (2) *by adding at the end the following:*

7       *“(B) In the case of a property that the Secretary deter-*  
 8 *mines is appropriate for use as a facility to furnish services*  
 9 *to homeless veterans under chapter 20 of this title, the Sec-*  
 10 *retary may enter into an enhanced-use lease with a pro-*  
 11 *vider of homeless services without regard to the selection*  
 12 *procedures required under subparagraph (A).”.*

13       (c) *EFFECTIVE DATE.*—*The amendments made by sub-*  
 14 *section (b) shall apply to leases entered into on or after the*  
 15 *date of the enactment of this Act.*

16 **SEC. 11. MEETINGS OF INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOME-**  
 17 **LESS.**

18       *Section 202(c) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assist-*  
 19 *ance Act (42 U.S.C. 11312(c)) is amended to read as fol-*  
 20 *lows:*

21       “(c) *MEETINGS.*—*The Council shall meet at the call*  
 22 *of its Chairperson or a majority of its members, but not*  
 23 *less often than annually.”.*

1 **SEC. 12. RENTAL ASSISTANCE VOUCHERS FOR HUD VET-**  
2 **ERANS AFFAIRS SUPPORTED HOUSING PRO-**  
3 **GRAM.**

4 *Section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937*  
5 *(42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)) is amended by adding at the end the*  
6 *following new paragraph:*

7 *“(19) RENTAL VOUCHERS FOR VETERANS AF-*  
8 *FAIRS SUPPORTED HOUSING PROGRAM.—*

9 *“(A) SET ASIDE.—Subject to subparagraph*  
10 *(C), the Secretary shall set aside, from amounts*  
11 *made available for rental assistance under this*  
12 *subsection, the amounts specified in subpara-*  
13 *graph (B) for use only for providing such assist-*  
14 *ance through a supported housing program ad-*  
15 *ministered in conjunction with the Department*  
16 *of Veterans Affairs. Such program shall provide*  
17 *rental assistance on behalf of homeless veterans*  
18 *who have chronic mental illnesses or chronic sub-*  
19 *stance use disorders, shall require agreement of*  
20 *the veteran to continued treatment for such men-*  
21 *tal illness or substance use disorder as a condi-*  
22 *tion of receipt of such rental assistance, and*  
23 *shall ensure such treatment and appropriate case*  
24 *management for each veteran receiving such*  
25 *rental assistance.*

1           “(B) *AMOUNT.*—*The amount specified in*  
2           *this subparagraph is—*

3                   “(i) *for fiscal year 2003, the amount*  
4                   *necessary to provide 500 vouchers for rental*  
5                   *assistance under this subsection;*

6                   “(ii) *for fiscal year 2004, the amount*  
7                   *necessary to provide 1,000 vouchers for*  
8                   *rental assistance under this subsection;*

9                   “(iii) *for fiscal year 2005, the amount*  
10                  *necessary to provide 1,500 vouchers for*  
11                  *rental assistance under this subsection; and*

12                  “(iv) *for fiscal year 2006, the amount*  
13                  *necessary to provide 2,000 vouchers for*  
14                  *rental assistance under this subsection.*

15           “(C) *FUNDING THROUGH INCREMENTAL AS-*  
16           *SISTANCE.*—*In any fiscal year, to the extent that*  
17           *this paragraph requires the Secretary to set aside*  
18           *rental assistance amounts for use under this*  
19           *paragraph in an amount that exceeds the*  
20           *amount set aside in the preceding fiscal year,*  
21           *such requirement shall be effective only to such*  
22           *extent or in such amounts as are or have been*  
23           *provided in appropriation Acts for such fiscal*

- 1            *year for incremental rental assistance under this*
- 2            *subsection.”.*

Attest:

*Secretary.*

107TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R. 2716**

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**AMENDMENT**